

2018 ANNUAL REPORT



**FORT
FRANCES
PUBLIC LIBRARY
TECHNOLOGY CENTRE**

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

It is a privilege to speak publicly regarding our innovative and progressive Library, its programming, and its wonderful staff. Every year we strive to improve the ways in which we serve our community. One of the many ways that this is done is by evaluating and improving our programming, technology and services.

We are very proud of our new strategic plan which was completed in 2018. It will guide us forward over the term of the new Library Board. We are excited about this initiative, which was prepared collaboratively with our community using input from many contributors. It reflects both our vision and mission statements and is available to the public upon request.

This year was one of staffing changes. We said farewell to a long serving, beloved staff member and hired new permanent and casual staff.

We evaluated, changed and increased our programming. For the first time we were able to hire a summer student devoted to programming for seniors. We increased outreach to places like the Senior's centre and Alberton through pop up libraries in various locations, and programming at the Senior's centre and Story Time in Alberton Park. We were proud to be involved in the first Borderland Pride Week. We continued to work with our existing community partners and seek out partnerships.

These days print books are only a small part of

what we offer. Nonetheless we re-evaluated our collection, updated our books, weeded out older materials and reshuffled our shelving.

If you can't come to us, we will come to you through outreach or E-books. We offer home deliveries through our volunteers. E-book usage is up, and we continue to increase this collection. You no longer have to physically go to the Library to access our services.

We are a Technology Centre and every year we add new technology to remain at the forefront of new developments. We are excited about the acquisition of Virtual Reality technology and the ability to produce professional quality videos using green screen technology.

One of our priorities is to provide meaningful programming for teens, this includes Nerd Night, Minecraft programs and gaming clubs. We have increased the number of computers dedicated to teen usage as well and added new software and current games.

We are mindful that we serve the entire community and ensure our programming is accessible, inclusive and has something for everyone. We offer programs for mothers and babies, toddlers, tweens, teens, young adults, adults and seniors. We sponsor and offer various clubs, drop in nights, movies, courses, crafts, concerts and much more.

LIBRARY BOARD MEMBERS

2018

Andrew Hallikas, Chair
Robert Schulz, Vice-Chair
June Caul, Council Representative
Sheri De Gagné
Robin Dennis
Ken Perry, Council Representative
Kerry Zucchiatti

2019

Robin Dennis, Chair
Robert Schulz, Vice-Chair
Mike Behan, Council Representative
Sheri De Gagné
Andrew Hallikas, Council Representative
Gord McBride
Kerry Zucchiatti

QUICK FACTS

We consider ourselves to be a safe and welcoming place for any member of the community to drop in and hang out. You are welcome to relax in one of our lounges, read a book, current magazine, or newspaper, or access the internet. You can do crafts in our maker space, listen to music, watch a movie, or have a talking book read itself to you. There is no charge for any of these activities.

Above all, we pride ourselves in our dedicated and professional staff and committed group of volunteers. We could not possibly offer the services that we do, without the invaluable assistance of our hard working "Friends of The Library". In difficult economic times, they supply financial assistance allowing us to do the little extras that make our library unique. We are very grateful to the Town of Fort Frances, their employees and Mayor and Council for their assistance and in-kind services. We are guided by a very involved and knowledgeable Library Board who put in countless volunteer hours striving to provide the best possible Library services for our community. Finally, heart felt thanks to CEO Caroline Goulding for her progressive and dynamic leadership.

Our Library is second to none. This community hub is an inclusive and welcoming place of learning, fun, excitement, relaxation, activities, contemplation and safety. We stand for and support arts, culture, learning, diversity, equity, equality, democracy, critical thinking and knowledge. We pride ourselves on being relevant and, Inspiring Endless Opportunities. We are your Public Library!

Andrew Hallikas – Chair 2018

Robin Dennis – Chair 2019

4,557	Library members
104,766	visits to the Library
719	programs offered
13,326	program attendees
71,108	items checked out
19,503	computer sessions
13,429	Wi-Fi sessions
11,647	eBooks and audiobooks downloaded
3,904	databases accesses
1,502	social media interactions
74,407	people reached by social media
1,761	room bookings
30,756	website visits
2,044	items used in the Library



HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2018



Staff Changes

Nadine Cousineau took over Penny Shumaker's role after her retirement. Samantha Manty was hired as our new Public Services Clerk and Carolyn Mount as our new casual staff member. For the first time we were able to hire a summer student devoted to senior's programs through a grant from the Government of Ontario.

New Programs

Many new programs were held, including:

- Saturday Craft Club
- Nerd Night
- Toddler Time
- Community Café
- May I Ask Mondays
- Yoga for Adults
- Senior's Appreciation Tea
- Movie Discussions
- Imaging Club
- Pride Week events
- Outreach at the Fort Frances Senior's Centre
- Storytime in Alberton Park
- Grandparent's Tea
- UNFC's Science and Sensory
- Soapstone Carving
- Photoshop Workshop
- Ancestry.ca Workshop

Books on the move

We moved many of our collections around in order to give growing collections more space and make finding the next great read easier for our patrons.

New and Expanded Collections

Through funds from the community, our Friends of the Library, and the Government of Ontario we were able to purchase more Western paperbacks and French Children's books, as well as our new Out and About Nature Packs.

Continued Programs

We continued to offer many wonderful programs, including:

- Tween Club
- Pokemon League
- Story Time
- Rainy Lake Readers Book Club
- Fireside Lounge Knitting Club
- Baby Time
- Public Library Players League
- TD Summer Reading Club
- Trunk or Treat
- Teddy Bear Picnic
- Movie Matinees
- Family Movies
- Minecraft Programs
- 3D Print Certification Courses
- 3D Quick Prints

New Technology

We added new technology to our MakerSpace this year with the purchase of a Cricut Cutter and Virtual Reality technology. You can now use VR in the Library or check out a pair of goggles to use at home! We also expanded the number of computers in our teen gaming centre.





Our Volunteers

Many of our most vital services and programs are made possible by volunteers who generously give their time to the Library. This includes our book delivery service which saw 3,926 items delivered this year. This wonderful service is entirely run by volunteers, from book selection to delivery.

A number of community members also volunteer with our programs. They lend their skill and expertise to help the community learn and grow. We thank our volunteers for all they give us every year.



The Friends of the Fort Frances Public Library

We continue to receive ongoing support of our programs from our Friends of the Fort Frances Public Library. Throughout the year, every year, the Friends work tirelessly to help the Library be the best that it can be. This includes donating funds to cover the costs of our programs each year as well as to support special projects. This year the Friends paid for the purchase of new shelving for our new books section. We are incredibly grateful for all the Friends of the Fort Frances Public Library do for us.



If you would like to join the Friends they meet the third Thursday of every month, except for July and August, at 2pm.

REVENUE AND EXPENSES*

REVENUE		EXPENSES	
Library Generated	\$42,101	Salaries, Wages, Benefits	\$414,865
Donations	\$26,520	Contracted Services	\$6,224
Grants	\$50,947	Building and Grounds	\$84,150
Municipality	\$497,053	Library Services	\$79,510
TOTAL REVENUE	\$616,622	Supplies/Materials	\$11,916
		Rents & Services	\$18,707
		Financial Services	\$1,250
		TOTAL EXPENSES	\$616,622

*unaudited





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If you have any questions about our annual report, please contact:

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Chief Executive Officer

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